

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

OMB-01 /058 W

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R 201406Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8032

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF TURKISH GOVERNMENT CRISIS

1. WE HEAR AN INCREASING CHORUS OF RUMORS FROM MANY SOURCES, SENIOR AND MIDDLE-LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, JOURNALISTS, AND DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, THAT A RESOLUTION OF TURKEY'S CHRONIC GOVERNMENT CRISIS (WHICH HAS NOW LASTED SINCE SEPTEMBER 18, 1974) MAY BE AT HAND.

2. MOST COMMONLY PREDICTED SCENARIO GOES SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

(A) PARLIAMENT COMPLETES ACTION ON BUDGET FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR (CONSTITUTION REQUIRES THAT THIS BE DONE BY FEBRUARY 28);

(B) CENTER RIGHT ELEMENTS MAKE FINAL ATTEMPT TO FORM COALITION GOVERNMENT AND TO GAIN A PARLIAMENTARY VOTE OF CONFIDENCE;

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(C) STEP (B) FAILS BECAUSE OF FAILURE OF COALITION TO
GET ENOUGH SUPPORT FROM BOZBEYLIS DEMOCRATIC PARTY;

(D) DEMIREL AND ECEVIT AGREE ON ELECTIONS TO BE HELD
POSSIBLY IN JUNE BUT MORE LIKELY IN SEPTEMBER 1975;

(E) IN INTERIM, A NEW AND STRENGTHENED CARETAKER
GOVERNMENT IS FORMED UNDER IRMAK LEADERSHIP TO GOVERN
COUNTRY UNTIL ELECTIONS HELD.

3. ABOVE SCENARIO SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE AND COULD IN FACT
EVENTUATE. THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY COLLAPSES OF PREVIOUS
EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE CRISIS, HOWEVER, THAT WE FEEL CONS-
TRAINED TO REPORT THIS WITH SOME RESERVE. ONE FACTOR THAT
MAY BE OPERATING TO BRING ABOVE SCENARIO TOWARD REALIZATION IS
REPORTED MEMORANDUM PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT KORUTURK IN
EARLY FEBRUARY BY SENIOR MILITARY, URGING IN RESPECTFUL BUT
FORCEFUL TERMS THAT CRISIS BE RESOLVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
(THIS IS FIRST SIGN THAT MILITARY MAY BE LOSING PATIENCE WITH
PROLONGED PARLIAMENTARY IMPASSE.)
MACOMBER

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